Though the platform tickets are available at all the 36 counters at New Delhi Railway Station, seven counters have exclusively been earmarked for this. The availability of platform tickets has been prominently displayed in the concourse and at the booking counters. As regards the problem relating to wheel chairs, 16 wheel chairs have been provided at the station and the same is considered adequate to tackle the current demands. Signages have been provided at various important locations indicating the availability of various services. Moreover, regular announcements are also made on Public Address System round the clock with regard to late running of trains, coolie charges availability of platform tickets, wheel chair and its charges etc.

Transfer policy in Railways

†5495. SHRI D.RYADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway Ministry has prepared a policy to transfer the employees/officers who have completed five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some employees/officers of stations attached to Allahabad Division are working there for more than five years, if so, post-wise, time-wise and station-wise, details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that due to this, administrative problems and corruption have increased and number of complaints have been received during this period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and what action Government would take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Railway employees holding sensitive posts and who frequently come into contact with public and/or contractors/suppliers are required to be transferred every four years. In order to avoid large scale dislocation of staff, periodical transfers are, as far as possible, effected without involving a change of residence of the staff concerned, so long as the fundamental objective of such transfers can be achieved by transferring such staff to a different location in the same station or to a different station in the same urban agglomeration. However, staff detected to be indulging in malpractices or having figured

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in substantiated vigilance cases are required to be transferred on inter-divisional/inter-railway basis.

Similarly, tenure of posting of officers in the same post should not exceed four years.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) and (e) Only two specific complaints regarding overstay of staff and indulging in malpractices were received during the year 2000-2002 on Allahabad Division. Both the staff have been transferred from their present place of posting.

Replacement of sleepers at Mainpuri section

†5496. SHRIGHANSHYAM CHANDRA KHARWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the shortage of old and worn and torn wooden sleepers, the Kalindi Express from Shikohabad to Mainpuri is run at a very slow speed.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the wooden sleepers have been replaced with cemented sleepers from Ferrukhabad to Mainpuri Kutchery;

(c) whether there has been unreasonable delay due to connivance in fixing the cemented sleepers from Mainpuri to Shikohabad as a result of which precious time to passengers is wasted; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made by Government to expedite the said work and by when, it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. From Farrukhabad to Mainpuri Kutchery, concrete sleepers have been laid.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. during current year it has been planned to carry out 38.66 Km of rail renewal and 17.34 Km of sleeper renewal on Shikohabad to Mainpuri and Mainpuri to Farrukhabad.The work is expected to be completed by 2004 depending upon availability of resources.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.